

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040483

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PDEU, PBOR, IS, XF

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

REF: TEL AVIV 1171

1. RECENT EMBASSY REPORTING ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN EXTREMELY VALUABLE TO WASHINGTON ANALYSTS. THE FIELD OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN TELEGRAMS SUCH AS 0244, 0330, AND 0725, HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY CURRENT AND INFORMATIVE. MORE LENGTHY AND COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS, SUCH AS TEL AVIV 1529, DATED 1 FEBRUARY AND TEL AVIV A-223, DATED 10 JANUARY, ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND ADD TO THE NEEDED WASHINGTON DATA BASE.
2. WASHINGTON ANALYSTS WOULD APPRECIATE ANSWERS AT YOUR CONVENIENCE TO THESE QUESTIONS CONCERNING SINAI SETTLEMENTS:

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A. WE CANNOT LOCATE THE REPORTED NAHAL KADESH BARNEA, SINAI. WE UNDERSTAND IT IS AT THE KADESH BARNEA ANTIQUITY SITE. IS THE ANTIQUITY SITE UNDER EXCAVATION? CAN YOU PROVIDE LOCATION?

B. WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE SETTLEMENT LOCATED ON THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST IMMEDIATELY NORTHEAST OF YAMIT? IS THIS

TALMEI YOSEF? IS IT A TOURIST RESORT?

C. THE HOUSING NEIGHBORHOOD LOCATED ADJACENT TO SADOT APPEARS TO BE AVSHALOM REGIONAL CENTER ACCORDING TO TABLE 7 OF TEL AVIV AIRGRAM 223. CAN YOU PROVIDE ANY MORE DETAILS?

D. THERE ARE TWO NEW ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN SOUTHEAST SINAI NEARING COMPLETION; ONE IS NEAR NEVI'OT AND THE OTHER NEAR DIZAHAV. WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED PLACE NAMES AND POLITICAL/RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS? ARE THE NEW SETTLEMENTS TOURIST RESORTS?

E. IS THERE AN OFFICIAL ISRAELI MASTER PLAN REGARDING DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE COASTAL SOUTHEAST SINAI REGION (THE ELAT - NEVI'OT - DIZAHAV - SHARM ASH-SHAYKH CORRIDOR)? IF NOT, ARE THERE ANY PROPOSALS CIRCULATING AMONG OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL GROUPS?

F. JERUSALEM POST ARTICLES HAVE MENTIONED NEW WELLS BEING DRILLED TO SUPPLY FRESH WATER TO THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE RAFAH APPROACHES. CAN YOU PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ON THEIR LOCATIONS? IS ANY GAZA STRIP GROUND WATER BEING SUPPLIED VIA THE NATIONAL WATER CARRIER SYSTEM TO THE RAFAH APPROACHES?

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